Remarks

Claims 1-16 are currently pending in the patent application. For the reasons and arguments set forth below, Applicant respectfully submits that the claimed invention is allowable over the cited references.

The Office Action dated October 30, 2007 indicated an objection to claims 12-16 and listed the following rejections: claims 1 and 7 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over Brown *et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 5,916,309); claims 1, 3-5, 7-8, 10, 12-13 and 15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Nogradi (U.S. Patent No. 5,974,518); claims 1-2, 6-7, 9, 11-12 and 16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Shemla *et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 5,809,557) in view of Brown; and claim 14 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Shemla and Brown in view of Fadivi-Ardekani *et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 6,496,916).

In an effort to facilitate prosecution, Applicant has amended claim 1 to incorporate claim 5, claim 7 to incorporate claim 10, and claim 12 to incorporate claim 15. Applicant respectfully requests that these amendments be entered because they remove issues for any potential appeal by rendering the Section 102(b) rejection (based upon the Brown reference) and the Section 103(a) rejections (based upon the Shemla reference) moot. Applicant notes that the amended claims 1, 7 and 12 require only a cursory review by the Examiner without necessitating an additional search since these claims were already present in the form of claims 5, 10 and 15 respectively. *See, e.g.,* M.P.E.P. §§ 714.12 and 714.13(I).

Applicant respectfully traverses the Section 102(b) rejection of claims 1, 3-5, 7-8, 10, 12-13 and 15 because the cited portions of the Nogradi reference do not correspond to the claimed invention which includes, for example aspects directed to the write interface receiving, from the application, an identification of data to be stored and an identification of a select buffer to store the data and the write interface translating the identification of the select buffer to an address corresponding to the select buffer. The Examiner cites to Nogradi's buffer descriptor 36 which, for a given buffer 34, each contain the address of the buffer 34, the length of the message in the buffer 34 and status information indicating the condition of the buffer 34. *See, e.g.,* Figure 2, Col. 2:21-24 and Col. 2:54-59.

However, the cited portions of Nogradi do not mention that the buffer descriptor table (which contains the buffer descriptors 36) performs any translation of the identification of the buffer received from the application to the address of the buffer in order to store the data in the buffer. Thus, the cited portions of the Nogradi reference do not correspond to the claimed invention. Accordingly, the Section 102(b) rejection of claims 1, 3-5, 7-8, 10, 12-13 and 15 is improper and Applicant requests that it be withdrawn.

Applicant respectfully traverses the Section 103(a) rejections of claims 1-2, 6-7, 9, 11-12, 14 and 16 (each of which is based upon Shemla in view of Brown) because there is no reason to combine the references in the manner asserted by the Examiner. Applicant presented this argument to the Office Action Response and Amendment dated August 17, 2007 hereby incorporated by reference in its entirety. However, further discussion regarding the Section 103(a) rejections is unnecessary in view of the above mentioned claim amendments which render the rejections moot.

Regarding the objection to claims 12-16, Applicant submit that the manner in which the write and read control logic are each configured to facilitate use of each buffer as a circular buffer would be clear to one of skill in the art based upon Applicant's specification. *See, e.g.,* Paragraphs 0021-0022. Applicant notes that claim 14 contains aspects directed to how the controller is configured to facilitate use of each buffer as a circular buffer. In response to the Examiner's question concerning whether the claims require using the buffer as a circular buffer, Applicant notes that claims 12-16 are directed to a circuit not a method of use. Accordingly, Applicant requests that the objection to claims 12-16 be withdrawn.

In view of the remarks above, Applicant believes that each of the rejections has been overcome and the application is in condition for allowance. Should there be any remaining issues that could be readily addressed over the telephone, the Examiner is asked to contact the agent overseeing the application file, Peter Zawilski, of NXP Corporation at (408) 474-9063 (or the undersigned).

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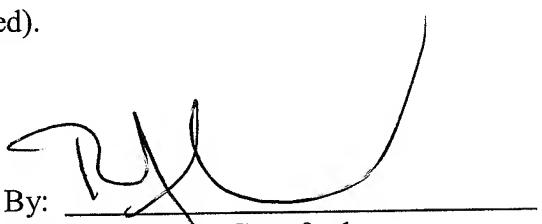
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